

III. REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 66, 69-70 and 74 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for reasons set forth in the Action. The claims have been amended for clarity so as to overcome this ground of rejection.

Claims 38-40, 44-46 and 49-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ali (US 2003/0197679), and Claims 77-78 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Asai (US 2003/0011468) for reasons set forth in the Action.

Various ones of the claims were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the cited art, namely, claims 41-43, 47-48 and 75 over Sugaya (US 6239787), claims 53-57, 61-65, 71-74 and 76 over Parulski (US 7146179), claims 58-59 over Parulski in view of Schon (US 2004/0248621), and claims 60, 66-70 and 79-80 over various combinations of the teachings of Paulski, Someya (US 6546231), Sugaya, Asai, and Register (US 5661632) for reasons set forth in the Action.

With respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103, various ones of the claims are amended and the following argument is presented to distinguish the claimed subject matter from the teachings of the cited art, considered individually and in combination, thereby to overcome the rejections and to show the presence of allowable subject matter in the claims.

The claim amendments find support in the present specification. Support for the amendments to claims 38 and 50 may be found from page 7, line 22 to page 8, line 11 and in Figs. 5A to 5C of the published PCT application. All subsequent references are to the published PCT application. Support for the amendments made to claims 53, 61 and 77 to 80 may be found from page 8, line 19 to page 9, line 16 and in Figs. 6A to 6C. Support for new claims 81 to 83 may be found from page 8, line 29 to page 9, line 16, and in Figs 6A to 6C. The preambles of the independent claims and their respective

dependent claims have been broadened to recite simply the words "a device" or "a method".

With respect to the rejections of the independent claims 38 and 50, it is noted that Ali discloses a portable user interface 800 having a display 740 and soft keys 870. Icons 820 relating to the soft keys are displayed on the display. When the information on the display 740 is rotated, the soft key icons 820 are also rotated {see Figs. 8A to 8C}.

In order to distinguish claim 38 from the cited art, claim 38 has been amended to recite:

"A device, comprising:

first and second input keys associated with a display; a display for displaying information content with a first orientation, first control content, adjacent the first input key, indicating a function of the first input key, and second control content, adjacent the second input key, indicating a function of the second input key; and
a processor, for controlling the display, arranged to vary the first orientation of the information content to a second orientation and to interchange the first control content and the second control content, such that the first control content is adjacent the second input key and the second control content is adjacent the first input key, wherein the location of the first and second input keys do not vary when the orientation of the information content is varied".

A corresponding amendment is made to method claim 50 to distinguish claim 50 from the cited art.

Embodiments of the invention according to claims 38 and 50 differ from Ali in that the processor of present claim 38 interchanges the first control content and the second control content. A corresponding comment applies to claim 50. This feature is not disclosed by Ali. In fact, Ali teaches away from this because Ali teaches that each soft

key icon should remain adjacent to a particular key. See, for example, Figs. 8B (portrait mode - paragraph [0070]) and 8C (landscape mode - see paragraph [0070]).

In the rejections of claims 53 and 61, the Examiner has made particular reference in Parulski to Figs. 9 to 10C, and column 8 at line 56 to column 9 at line 15. These parts of Parulski relate to a zooming and panning process on a photo phone 12. Fig. 10A illustrates an image 520A displayed in an image window 520 of display screen 56. When a user selects a zoom icon 512 and presses an enter key 502, the photo phone 502 requests higher resolution data for a larger central image data area 530B, which is then transmitted to photo phone 12. A slightly smaller central portion 520B of stored image data 530B is displayed in the image window 520 on the display screen 56. A user may then pan around the image using a 4-way controller 506.

From the foregoing observations in the description of Parulski, with respect to the provision of a higher resolution data, and with respect to a panning about the image, it becomes apparent that the display of Parulski is not presenting all of the image points concurrently but, rather, is presenting an enlarged region of the image at a high resolution. This necessitates the need to pan, namely, to view limited portions of the image sequentially in order to see all of the data points. Such a presentation of data differs from that taught in the present specification wherein all of the data points of the complete image are viewable simultaneously in the display.

With respect to the rejection of claim 53, it is noted that the Examiner argues in the Office Action that Parulski discloses all of the features of claim 53, apart from "successive inputs". The Examiner argues that it is obvious that the user can repeat the process until the desired area is shown.

It appears that the Examiner is considering the full extent of the image data once the zoom function has been used (i.e. including the image data which is outside the image display window 520) to correspond to the "display area" in claim 53. He therefore

appears to be suggesting that the size of the display area is increasing when the zoom function has been used (i.e. because panning can then take place).

Present claim 53 is amended to emphasize the foregoing distinction between the presently claimed subject matter and the teaching of Parulski by reciting, with respect to the display having a display area for displaying information content:

wherein, the whole of the information content in the display area is displayed by the display.

Further, in a latter portion of the claim dealing with the operation of the processor, for controlling the display, claim 53 is amended to state that the processor is arranged to incrementally change the size of the display area "while displaying the information content wholly within the incremented display area, in response to successive inputs from the user input device".

These amended passages in claim 53 emphasize that there is a displaying of information wherein the whole of the information content is presented on the display. This is distinguishable from Parulski who is willing to present only a portion of the image information.

In amended claim 53, the "display area" is defined as being an area within the confines of the display, because "the whole of the information content in the display area is displayed by the display", Also, the processor is arranged to incrementally change the size of the display area "while displaying of the information content wholly within the incremented display area".

In view of these amendments, it is no longer possible for the Examiner to construe the "display area" to be an area which extends outside the confines of the display. The subject matter of independent claim 53 is therefore new in relation to the disclosures of Parulski.

Furthermore, as Parulski discloses a zooming and a panning operation, it appears to relate exclusively to increasing the total size of an image beyond the extent of a display, thereby teaching directly away from the present invention. The subject-matter of independent claim 53 and correspondingly amended method claim 61 is therefore both novel and non-obvious in view of the disclosures made in Parulski.

In the rejection of the independent claims 62 and 71, the Examiner rejects the claims for being obvious over the teaching of Parulski. The Examiner has indicated that the same parts of Parulski are relevant to claims 62 and 71 as those mentioned in relation to claims 53 and 61. Claims 62 and 71 have been amended in a manner similar to the amending of claims 53 and 61, and are novel and non-obvious for the same reasons as those expressed in relation to claims 53 and 61. In particular, claims 62 and 71 refer to varying the orientation of information content, which is not disclosed in Parulski. It should be noted that the "panning" described in Parulski does not relate to changing the orientation of information content.

With respect to the rejections of independent Claims 77 and 78 on the teachings of Asai, it is noted that Asai relates to a radio paging receiver with a display unit. The display section 17 displays a grid of $N \times M$ or $2N \times 2M$ characters (see Figs. 8 and 9 and paragraphs [0057] and [0058]). When more characters are displayed on the display, the character size decreases. More characters fit in a line on the display because the area on the display that is taken up by the characters as a whole remains the same.

Claim 77 is amended to distinguish over the cited art, wherein the amended claim 77 recites:

"A device, comprising:

a display for displaying information content in a display area, the information content including alphanumeric characters being displayed over a plurality of lines;
a user input device; and

a processor, for controlling the display, arranged to change the size of the display area displaying information content, in order to change the number of alphanumeric characters in a line of the displayed information content, while displaying the whole of the information content, in response to input from the user input device".

Asai is distinguishable from the subject matter of amended claim 77 which states that the size of the display area displaying information content is changed, in order to change the number of alphanumeric characters in a line of the displayed information content. In Asai, the size of the display area for displaying information content remains the same. See, for example, paragraph [0058] which states that four times as many characters can be displayed on the display in Fig. 9 as compared to Fig. 8, making the size of each character in Fig. 9 one quarter of that in Fig. 8.

Asai teaches away from the invention because it teaches that the size of the characters on a display should be reduced, and that the size of the display area which is used for displaying the characters should remain the same, in order to increase the number of characters that can be displayed on the display.

Corresponding subject matter appears in Claim 78. Therefore, independent claim 77 and corresponding method claim 78 are novel and non-obvious over of the disclosures made in Asai.

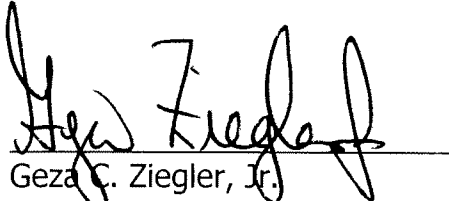
In order to overcome the rejections of independent claims 79-80 over the combined teachings of Asai and Register, claims 79 and 80 are amended, in a manner similar to the amendments to claims 77 and 78, namely, to recite that the size of the display area displaying information content is changed in order to change the number of alphanumeric characters that are displayed in a line. This is believed to overcome the rejections of claims 79-80 for the same reasons provided above for overcoming the rejections of the claims 77-78.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record,

and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for the three additional dependent claims (\$150) and the one month extension of time (\$120) as well as any other fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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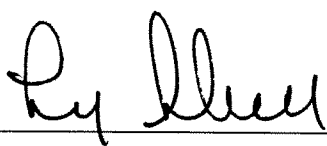
30 Jun 2007
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